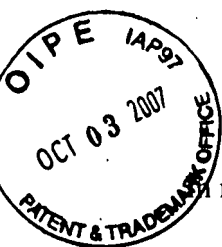


IFW



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

re application of :  
Taku HIRAYAMA et al. : **Mail Stop: PCT**  
Serial No. 10/568,951 : Attorney Docket No. 2006\_0227A  
Filed May 5, 2006 :

MATERIAL FOR FORMING RESIST  
PROTECTIVE FILM FOR LIQUID  
IMMERSION LITHOGRAPHY PROCESS,  
RESIST PROTECTIVE FILM FORMED BY  
THE MATERIAL, AND METHOD OF  
FORMING RESIST PATTERNS USING  
THE MATERIAL

[Corresponding to PCT/JP2004/012204  
Filed August 25, 2004]

THE COMMISSIONER IS AUTHORIZED  
TO CHARGE ANY DEFICIENCY IN THE  
FEES FOR THIS PAPER TO DEPOSIT  
ACCOUNT NO 23-0975

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to the provisions of 37 CFR 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, Applicants request consideration of the reference listed on attached form PTO-1449 and any additional information identified below in paragraph 3. A legible copy of each reference listed on the Form PTO-1449 is enclosed, except a copy is not provided for:

- ☐ each U.S. Patent and U.S. Patent application publication;
- ☐ each reference previously cited in the international application PCT/\_\_\_\_\_; and/or
- ☐ each reference previously cited in prior parent application Serial No. \_\_\_\_\_.

1a. [X] This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted:

within three months of the filing date (or of entry into the National Stage) of the above-entitled application, **or**

before the mailing of a first Office Action on the merits or the mailing of a first Office Action after the filing of an RCE,

**and thus no certification and/or fee is required.**

1b. ☐ This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted

after the events of above paragraph 1a and prior to the mailing date of a final Office Action or a Notice of Allowance or an action which otherwise closes prosecution in the application, and thus:

(1) ☐ the certification of paragraph 2 below is provided, **or**

(2) ☐ the fee of \$180.00 specified in 37 CFR 1.17(p) is enclosed.

1c. ☐ This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted:

after the mailing date of a final Office Action or Notice of Allowance or action which otherwise closes prosecution in the application, and prior to payment of the issue fee, and thus:

**the certification of paragraph 2 below is provided, and**

**the fee of \$180.00 specified in 37 CFR 1.17(p) is enclosed.**

2. It is hereby certified

a. ☐ that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the Statement, or

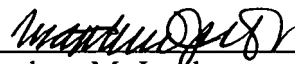
b. ☐ that no item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application and, to the knowledge of the person signing the certification

after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the Statement.

3. ☐ Consideration of the following list of additional information (including any copending or abandoned U.S. application, prior uses and/or sales, etc.) is requested.
4. For each non-English language reference listed on the attached form PTO-1449, reference is made to:
- a. ☐ a full or partial English language translation submitted herewith,
  - b. ☒ a foreign patent (Korean) Office Action (in partial English language) submitted herewith,
  - c. ☐ the concise explanation contained in the specification of the present application at page,
  - d. ☒ the concise explanation set forth in the attached English language abstract,
  - e. ☒ the concise explanation set forth below or on a separate sheet attached to the reference: See Table attached hereto.
5. ☐ A foreign patent office search report citing one or more of the references is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

Taku HIRAYAMA et al.

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October 3, 2007

Reference cited in the Korean Patent Application Issued on July 10, 2007

| No. | Publication No. | Publication Date<br>(Year/Month/Day) | Published<br>Country | Applicant/Assignee/Inventors | Translation |
|-----|-----------------|--------------------------------------|----------------------|------------------------------|-------------|
| AA  | JP-H11-176727   | 1999/7/2                             | JP                   | Nikon Corp                   | Abstract    |